



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,589	12/21/2001	John W. Hargrave	(CMS-101A)	4567

7590

12/12/2005

KENNETH P. GLYNN, ESQ.
Glynn & Associates, P.C.
24 Mine Street
Flemington, NJ 08822

EXAMINER

HAVAN, THU THAO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3624

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/029,589

Applicant(s)

HARGRAVE ET AL.

Examiner

Thu Thao Havan

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

Drawings

The Examiner accepts the drawings filed on December 21, 2001.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the **range of 50 to 150 words**. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims **1-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aleia et al. (US 5,991,733) in view of Patterson (US 2003/0061232).

Re claims 1 and 11, Aleia teaches a bankruptcy practice credit manager internet system (col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 25), which comprises:

(a) at least one manager processor computer, each of said at least one manager processor computer having a conventional microprocessor having a central processing unit with operating system hardware and software for conventional microprocessing, including sufficient hardware and software to operate on the internet and having connection to operate on the internet, said at least one manager processor computer being functionally connected to an internet system and having secured access to a bankruptcy practice program on a host server (col. 6, lines 12-49);

(b) a plurality of creditor processor computers, each of said creditor processor computers having a conventional microprocessor having a central processing unit with operating system hardware and software for conventional microprocessing, including sufficient hardware and software to operate on the internet and having connection to operate on the internet, said plurality of creditor process computers being functionally connector to said internet system and having access to said bankruptcy practice program on a host server (figs. 1e and 2);

(c) an internet system, including at least one host server, said at least host server having said bankruptcy practice program with sufficient software to (col. 6, lines 50-65):

(i) provide to said at least one manager processor computer access to said bankruptcy practice program, secured access to said program to set up individual bankrupt client case files, which are secured to prevent any other users from write functions with

Art Unit: 3624

respect thereto, editing capabilities, and input and transmittal capabilities for notices (col. 11, lines 2-30);

(ii) provide to said plurality of creditor processor computers access to said bankruptcy practice program, limited access to said program to provide informational access, claimant creditor information sheet inputs and valid voting capability for plans, and to deny said plurality of creditor processor computer access to secured manager processor computer write functions (col. 13, lines 1-24). In other words, Aleia discloses managing insurance receivable accounts over the Internet that may be used as a bankruptcy practice credit manager internet system (col. 3, lines 10-25). .

However, Patterson does not explicitly teach a homepage. Nevertheless, Patterson discloses a homepage (para.0069-0079; fig. 6). On the other hand, Patterson discloses homepages are in the Internet system. He discloses the URL of every web site homepage contains in the net, org, and com domains. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include a homepage for an Internet bankruptcy management system as discloses in Patterson.

Re claims **2** and **12**, Aleia teaches at least one manager processor computer and said plurality of creditor processor computer include e-mail capabilities for communication with one another via said host server (col. 6, lines 11-23). Aleia discloses electronic mail.

Re claims **3** and **13**, Aleia teaches third party processor computers, which are provided read only access to said bankruptcy practice program via said at least one host server (col. 6, lines 50-65).

Re claims **4** and **14**, Aleia teaches plurality of third party processor computers includes e-mail capabilities, via said host server for communications with at least one of said at least one manager processor computers and said plurality of creditor processor computers (fig. 1E).

Re claims **5**, **7**, **15**, and **17**, Patterson teaches bankruptcy practice program home page includes general case information and links to individual debtor and case information files (para.0069-0079; fig. 6).

Re claims **6** and **16**, Aleia teaches bankruptcy practice program includes access for said plurality of creditor processor computers to plans of reorganization for bankrupt clients having plans of reorganization, including documents, links, and plan information (col. 12, lines 61 to col. 13, line17). Aleia revises criteria by reorganization method.

Re claims **8** and **18**, Aleia teaches bankruptcy practice program provides access to claims motions (col. 18, lines 30-67).

Re claims **9** and **19**, Aleia teaches bankruptcy practice program includes access to recent case developments (col. 13, lines 25-61).

Re claims **10** and **20**, Aleia teaches bankruptcy practice program includes accessing individual bankrupt client files by claim number or case number identification (col. 14, lines 48-67). Aleia discloses account number corresponds case number identification.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

D'Loren, US patent no. 2005/0021433

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Thao Havan whose telephone number is (571) 272-8111. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct-uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

TTH
12/2/2005

VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

